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Letter dated 15 June 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to my letter of 5 June 2007 on the African Union-United Nations report on the hybrid operation in Darfur (S/2007/307/Rev.1) and to the high-level consultations held in Addis Ababa with the Government of the Sudan on 11 and 12 June. The conclusions of those consultations, as agreed between the Government of the Sudan, the African Union and the United Nations, are attached (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

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Annex

Conclusions of the high-level African Union-United Nations consultations with the Government of the Sudan on the hybrid operation in Darfur

A high-level technical consultation was held in Addis Ababa on 11 and 12 June 2007 pursuant to the letters dated 4 June 2007 of the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to President Omer Al-Bashir and further discussions among them. The technical consultations were attended by delegations from the Government of the Sudan, the African Union and the United Nations.

The participants discussed the comprehensive clarifications jointly provided by the African Union and the United Nations on the hybrid operation in Darfur, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on the hybrid operation (S/2007/307/Rev.1), in particular its specific recommendations about the mandate and structure of the operation and details on its various components and tasks. In view of the explanations and clarifications provided by the African Union and the United Nations as contained in the presentation, the Government of the Sudan accepted the joint proposals on the hybrid operation.

The meeting concluded that the proposed operation would contribute considerably to the stabilization of the situation in Darfur in its political, humanitarian and security dimensions. The participants underlined the need for the resolutions/decisions authorizing this operation to be adopted by the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council, taking into account the conclusions of the high-level meeting held in Addis Ababa on 16 November 2006, as endorsed by the summit meeting of the African Union Peace and Security Council held on 30 November 2006 and the statement of the President of the Security Council issued on 19 December 2006; the Riyadh agreement of 28 March 2007; the conclusions of the high-level consultative meeting on the United Nations heavy support package for the African Union Mission in the Sudan held on 9 April 2007; and the high-level consultative meeting on the African Union-United Nations report on the hybrid operation.

The participants further agreed on the need for an immediate comprehensive ceasefire accompanied by an inclusive political process, and stressed the need for troop- and police-contributing countries as well as donors to facilitate the early and successful implementation of the hybrid operation. The Sudanese delegation also raised the issue of an exit strategy, and the participants agreed that the requirements for the hybrid operation would be reviewed periodically subject to the conditions on the ground and the decisions of the two Councils.

The consultations confirmed the commitment of the United Nations, the African Union and the Government of the Sudan to the spirit of constructive engagement. In this context, the consultations also confirmed the need to take forward expeditiously and in full transparency the implementation of the three-phase approach to peacekeeping in Darfur. The Government of the Sudan committed itself to cooperating closely with the African Union and the United Nations, and all participants undertook to carry out their commitments.